

Message Text

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ORIGIN L-03

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DRAFTED BY L/EUR:DAGANT,:LHS

APPROVED BY L:MLEIGH

EUR - MR. LOWENSTEIN

H - MR. JENKINS

S/S - SESTEINER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 242625 TOSEC 280061

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM MONROE LEIGH

E.O. 11652: N/A

,AGS: CSCE

SUBJECT: CSCE COMMISSION MEETING

1. CSCE COMMISSION UNDER FASCELL'S CHAIRMANSHIP MET FOR ABOUT AN HOUR ON SEPTEMBER 29. THE SESSION WAS OPEN AND A NUMBER OF MEMBERS OF THE PRESS, INCLUDING MURRAY MARDER, WERE PRESENT. THE BULK OF THE MEETING WAS DEVOTED TO A DISCUSSION OF PROCEDURAL RULES, WITH KEY ISSUE WHETHER STAFF HEARINGS COULD BE HELD WITHOUT THE PRESENCE OF A MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION. AFTER EXTENSIVE DISCUSSION IT WAS DECIDED THAT AT LEAST TWO MEMBERS SHOULD BE PRESENT FOR ANY FORMAL HEARING, WITHOUT NECESSARILY PRECLUDING STAFF INTERVIEWS WITH PERSONS WHO WISH TO PROVIDE INFORMATION.

2. FASCELL SUMMARIZED THE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF HIS
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MEETING WITH YOU ON AUGUST 24 AND ENDORSED THE MEMBER-

OBSERVER APPROACH FOR EXECUTIVE BRANCH PARTICIPATION.
(I HAD GIVEN HIM A COPY OF THE DRAFT PRESIDENTIAL LETTER
WHICH HAS ALSO BEEN APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT.) SENATOR
LEAHY EXPRESSED THE VIEW EARLIER BROUGHT FORWARD BY CASE
THAT IN SOME RESPECTS IT WOULD BE BETTER IF THE EXECUTIVE
BRANCH WOULD NOT PARTICIPATE AT ALL, BUT AFTER SOME
DISCUSSION A CONSENSUS EMERGED IN FAVOR OF THE MEMBER-

OBSERVER APPROACH. I HAVE CONFIRMED WITH FASCELL THAT
HE IS SATISFIED, AND WILL HAVE THE WHITE HOUSE GO AHEAD
AND SEND THE LETTER.

3. AFTER THE MEETING I DISCUSSED WITH SEVERAL OF THE
MEMBERS, INCLUDING FASCELL, AN ELABORATE TRIP BY THE
COMMISSION TO WESTERN AND EASTERN EUROPE BEING PROPOSED
FOR NOVEMBER. ALTHOUGH THE PLANS ARE NOT FIRM, FASCELL
APPARENTLY HAS IN MIND ALL OR MOST OF THE COMMISSION
MEMBERS GOING TOGETHER TO BRUSSELS AND THEN SPLITTING
UP INTO SMALL GROUPS TO COVER MOST OF THE MAJOR EUROPEAN
CAPITALS. I EXPRESSED DOUBT CONCERNING THE IDEA OF A
TRIP AT THIS TIME, GIVEN THE FACT THAT THE COMMISSION HAS
NOT YET OBTAINED AND INGESTED THE EXTENSIVE INFORMATION
WHICH WE WILL BE PROVIDING THEM AT THEIR REQUEST IN THE
NEXT FEW DAYS. I ALSO NOTED OUR RESERVATIONS ABOUT
DIRECT CONTACTS WITH, AND REQUESTS FOR, INFORMATION
DIRECTED TO FOREIGN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS. ROBINSON

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